



A new species of *Nemoura* (Plecoptera: Nemouridae) from Central Italy

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Abstract

A new species of the genus *Nemoura* from Central Italy is described: *Nemoura sabina* sp. n. It belongs to the *Nemoura flexuosa-marginata* species group and had previously been confused with *N. flexuosa*. Its relationship to other species is discussed.

Key words: Plecoptera, Nemouridae, *Nemoura*, new species, endemics, Central Italy

Introduction

The genus *Nemoura* Latreille, 1796 belongs to the subfamily Nemourinae and includes more than 100 known species from the Holarctic and Oriental regions (DeWalt et al. 2009). In Europe 58 species are considered valid (Fochetti & Tierno de Figueroa 2004, Murányi 2007), 17 of them occurring in Italy (Fochetti & Tierno de Figueroa 2009). The *flexuosa-marginata* species group is characterised by a peculiar shape of cerci, paraprocts, and internal sclerites of the epiproct. This group is partly composed of species widely distributed in Europe (*N. flexuosa* Aubert, 1949, *N. marginata* Pictet, 1836, *N. uncinata* Despax, 1934) and several endemic species, 6 of them occurring in Italy: *N. hesperiae* Consiglio, 1960, *N. lucana* Nicolai & Fochetti, 1991, *N. oropensis* Ravizza & Ravizza Dematteis, 1980, *N. pesarinii* Ravizza & Ravizza Dematteis, 1979, *N. palliventris* Aubert, 1953, and *N. rivorum* Ravizza & Ravizza Dematteis, 1995 (the latter two species also slightly extend into the French Alps).

While studying *Nemoura* specimens from Italy held in Consiglio's collection (Rome, Italy, Zoology Museum of "Sapienza" University, Entomology section) to clarify the taxonomic status of problematic populations within the *flexuosa-marginata* group, we discovered a small number of specimens collected from Central Italy that were erroneously identified as *N. flexuosa*. These specimens belong to a species new to science. The description of this taxon is the objective of this paper. The morphological terminology used follows that of Baumann (1975).

Nemoura sabina sp. nov.

(Fig. 1–5)

Material examined. Holotype male: Italy, Latium, Posta (Ri), Velino River, m 700, 27.III.64, Sbordoni-Vigna-Consiglio leg. Paratypes: 11 males, 8 females, 16 larvae, same site and date, same collectors. The material is deposited in the Museo di Zoologia (Sezione Entomologia), "Sapienza" Università, Roma, Italy, except 2 males, 1 female, 1 larva in Vinçon's collection. All the specimens are preserved in 75% alcohol.

Diagnosis. This medium-size *Nemoura* is characterized by the presence of two dorsal sclerites of the epiproct that are composed of a pair of basolateral bands that arch distally and end in two small, distinct,